

R7-2-313. Academic contests fund

The State Board of Education establishes an academic contests fund consisting of monies appropriated by the legislature or received as gifts or grants for deposit in the academic contests fund pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-1241.

1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall, at least annually, compile a list of national contests to be presented to the State Board of Education for approval. Contest requirements are:
 - a. Shall be sponsored by a recognized national organization.
 - b. Shall be academic in nature, motivate pupils to be creative and demonstrate excellence.
 - c. Shall be open to all pupils, regardless of race, creed, sex or national origin. Contests may separate pupils by age or grade level.
2. School districts shall submit an application for academic contest funds to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for student and chaperone expenses. Requirements are:
 - a. No other sponsoring agency is assuming the total costs.
 - b. The participation of the students shall be the result of successfully competing at the local or state level, or both, of that contest.
 - c. The governing board of the school district in which the students attend shall approve the participation and travel of the students.
 - d. The fiscal agent applying for academic contest funds shall be an authorized district representative and responsible for the disbursement of travel funds.
 - e. A school district receiving academic contest funds shall submit a completion report and return any unused portion within 90 days after completion of travel to the Department of Education.
3. Application review and approval; funding limitations.
 - a. The State Board of Education shall annually set expenditure limitations for expenses of students and chaperones. These limitations shall be based on the number of applicants, monies available and current state travel regulations.
 - b. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall review applications for academic contest funds and shall approve applications based upon the criteria set forth in this rule and the availability of funds.